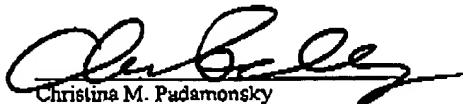


PATENT

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
JUN 13 2005

MS164185.01/MSFTP215US

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
 I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being faxed to 703-872-9306 on the date shown below to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: 6-13-05

 A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christina M. Padamonsky".

Christina M. Padamonsky

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s): Eric J. Horvitz, *et al.*

Examiner: Thomas E. Shortledge

Serial No: 09/896,187

Art Unit: 2654

Filing Date: June 29, 2001

Title: SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR INFERRING INFORMATIONAL GOALS AND PREFERRED LEVEL OF DETAIL OF ANSWERS

**Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 3, 2005

Dear Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and comments below. A credit card payment form is filed concurrently herewith in connection with a one-month extension of time (\$120.00). In the event any additional fees may be due and/or are not covered by the credit card, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP215US]